



U.S. Immigration  
and Customs  
Enforcement

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# News Release

## **MS-13 GANG MEMBER CARRYING THREE RIFLES NABBED BY ICE AND MIAMI POLICE**

MIAMI- A 23-year-old member of the violent street gang Mara Salvatrucha 13 (MS-13) was arrested here Tuesday by special agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and investigators assigned to the City of Miami Police Department's Gang Unit (MPD).

Edwin Reyes, a citizen of Honduras, was found in downtown Miami pushing a shopping cart carrying two .22-caliber rifles and one shotgun.

Reyes, who entered the country illegally, will be prosecuted federally for possessing firearms in violation of 18 USC 922. Reyes also faces administrative immigration charges for being an illegal alien.

Reyes is in ICE custody pending the outcome of his case.

"Law enforcement partnerships are what keep blatant criminals like Reyes off the streets," said Keith Perniciaro, Deputy Special Agent-in-Charge for Miami. "ICE will use its broad immigration authorities to ensure that this criminal experiences the full weight of the law. We will not cease in our efforts to restore integrity to our nation's immigration system."

"We are committed to working with our federal law enforcement partners to ensure that residents of the City of Miami are protected from egregious offenders who seek to terrorize our community," said Lt. Roque, commander of the City of Miami Police Department's Gang Unit. "We will simply not tolerate gang activity in our city, and we will use all of our law enforcement tools to thwart the criminal efforts of gangs such as the MS-13."

Reyes' arrest is part of a new ICE anti-gang initiative called "Operation Community Shield." Since Operation Community Shield was launched late last month, ICE agents working with their federal, state and local counterparts have arrested more than 103 MS-13 gang members, including 24 in Miami.

Operation Community Shield is a nationwide ICE anti-gang initiative designed to disrupt, dismantle and prosecute violent gang organizations by employing the full range of authorities and investigative tools available to ICE. Under this initiative, ICE is employing its broad immigration authorities (both criminal and administrative) against gang members, as well as its customs authorities in targeting narcotics smuggling, money laundering, and in seeking the forfeiture of assets.

This initiative also involves strong partnerships and cooperation with existing federal, state and local anti-gang efforts. Such partnerships are essential to the success of the initiative and to ensure officer safety during operations. The enforcement actions to date have been conducted in coordination with law enforcement at the federal, state and local levels. ICE will also be working through its 54 Attaché offices overseas to cooperate with foreign governments that are also experiencing gang problems, particularly those in Central America.

# ICE #

*U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.*